THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) : (a) The allocation of imported edible oil for PDS has been increased from 70,000 MTs in July, 1990 to 92,000 MTs in September, 1990. The increased allocation is likely to continue till the end of festival season to cope with the enhanced requirement of the festival season. Besides stock limits of edible oilseeds and edible oils to be held by various categories of traders have been reduced to avoid the chances of hoarding. Further the minimum margin on bank advances against oilseeds and vegetable oils has also further been raised. States have also been advised to gear up their enforcement machinery to discipline the trade. These steps taken by the Government are likely to increase the availability of edible oils.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Doubling of tracks from Nergundi to Barang Via Cuttack

3701. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for Electrification of Railway line from Kharagpur to Vizianagaram *via* Khurda Road (708 Kms) under S.E. Railways;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been included in 8th Plan outlay ;

(c) if not, whether Government would consider the proposal to be undertaken during 8th Plan period; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for doubling the track from Nergundi to Barang *via* Cuttack and the same has been included in 8th Plan and if not, whether Government would consider the same for execution during the 8th Plan period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Presently, there is no proposal for doubling of track from Nergundi to Barang.

Departure time of Puri Express

3702. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether there would be any change of departure time of 2816 New Delhi Puri Express and 8476 Nelachal Express leaving New Delhi ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH) : No, Sir.

Report of the Committee to go into the question of augmenting the resources of local bodies in the event of Abolition of Octroi

3703. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report of the Committee constituted to go into the question of augmenting the resources of local bodies in the event of abolition of Octroi, has since been circulated to the State Governments for necessary action; what are the salient features of the report;

(b) what is the response of the State Governments ; and

(c) where does the question rest at present ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes Sir, a summary of the recommendations is given in Statement-I. (*See* below)

(b) Response so far received is given in the Statement-II. (*See* below)

(c) Since Octroi is a State subject the decision on the recommendations is to be taken by the respective State Governments.